

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A method for controlling a plurality of machines configured to pick up an item from one of a plurality of available first positions and place the item in one of a plurality of second positions, the method comprising:

providing with a sensor member data on said available first positions to a control member configured to control a plurality of machines each configured to pick the item from one of said available first positions and place the item in one of said second positions,

sending a message from a master process of the control member comprising one or more of said available first positions to a machine controller of all said machines controlled by said control member,

sending a message from said control member to all said machine controllers of said machines with an indicator member specifying which of the one or more available first positions shall be used,

picking up with one of the machines an item from said one of available first position to be used and moving the item to one of the second positions, ~~and~~

receiving with said control member from the machine controller one of said machines a message that said one of said available first positions has been used, and

sending from the control member to the machine controllers of the machines that said one of said available first positions has been used and is no longer available.

2. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
sending a message with said control member comprising said first position, or more said first positions, to all said machines controlled by the control member in which message each said first position is marked with a status of used or not.

3. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
receiving at one of said machines the message comprising one or more said first positions,
handling an item placed one of the one or more of said first positions, and
sending a message to the control member comprising the information that one or more of said first positions where said item was handled has been used.

4. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
updating in said control member a marker of one of said first positions to read used, and
sending from the control member to all machines controlled by said control member a message that a status of the said first position consumed is equal to used.

5. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
selecting with a control member one or more specific said first positions to be handled by a specific machine.

6. (previously amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the control member uses an algorithm to select one of said first positions to be handled by one specific machine of all

machines.

7. (previously amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein the control member carries out a repeated triggering of a first position.

8. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
registering said first position of the item together with a unique identity member, and
marking each said first position with a status of used or not.

9. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 8, wherein the unique identity member takes the form of a number.

10. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 9, wherein the unique identity member takes the form of an alphanumeric string.

11. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
allocating one of said first positions to a specific machine dependent on load balancing
for a plurality of machines controlled by the control member.

12. (previously amended) The method according to claim 11, further comprising:
allocating said first position to a specific machine dependent on load balancing for all of
the machines controlled by the control member.

13. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
allocating one of said first positions to a specific machine dependent on a stoppage that has occurred in a work group controlled by the control member.

14. (previously amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
allocating one of said first positions to a specific machine dependent on a removal from service of another specific machine in the work group controlled by the control member.

15. (withdrawn) A system for controlling a machine to pick up an item from a first position and place the item in a second position, the system comprising:
a sensor member,
a plurality of machine members to pick up an item from a first position and place it in a second position,
a control member to control said plurality of machines, and comprising a list of all said first positions, and
at least one machine control member for one of said plurality of machines to which the control member is connected.

16. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 15, wherein the control member further comprises computer program elements to change the status of a said first position on the list of all said first positions.

17. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 15, wherein each of the at least one

machine controller members connected to the control member comprises computer program elements to change the status of a said first position on its list of all said first positions.

18. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 17, wherein the at least one machine controller member comprises computer program elements to update the status of a said first position on its list of all said first positions on receipt of a message from the control member.

19. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 18, wherein the at least one machine controller member comprises computer program elements to send a message to the control member when a said first position has been handled.

20. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 15, wherein each first position of all said first positions on the list are recorded together with a unique identifier member.

21. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 20, further comprising:
a synchronization member that provides a signal suitable for a any of the machines to base a trigger action on.

22. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 15, wherein at least one said sensor member comprises a non-optical detector.

23. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 15, wherein at least one said sensor member comprises a vision or optical detection member.

24. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 23, wherein the at least one said sensor member comprises a photocell.

25. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 23, wherein the at least one said sensor member comprises a camera and an image processing member.

26. (withdrawn) The system according to claim 25, wherein the image processing member comprises computer program elements arranged for image recognition.

27. (currently amended) A computer program product, comprising:
a non-transitory computer readable medium; and
computer code and/or software code portions recorded on the computer readable medium which when loaded into a computer or processor will make the computer or processor perform a method for controlling plurality of machines configured to pick up an item from one of a plurality of available first positions and place the item in one of a plurality of second positions, the method comprising providing with a sensor member data on said available first positions to a control member configured to control a plurality of machines each configured to pick the item from one of said available first positions and place the item in one of said second positions, sending a message from a master process of the control member comprising one or more of said available first positions to a machine controller of all said machines controlled by said control member, sending a message from said control member to all said machine controllers of said machines with an indicator member specifying which of the one or more available first positions

shall be used, picking up with one of the machines an item from said one of available first position to be used and moving the item to one of the second positions, ~~and~~ receiving with said control member from the machine controller one of said machines a message that said one of said available first positions has been used, and sending from the control member to the machine controllers of the machines that said one of said available first positions has been used and is no longer available.

28. (cancelled)

29. (withdrawn) A computer data signal for control and/or monitoring of a plurality of machines arranged to move items from a first place to a second place, embodied in a carrier wave, comprising:

a list of first positions for a plurality of items.

30. (withdrawn) The computer data signal according to claim 29, characterised in that said computer data signal comprises

markers to show if a given first position (3) has been consumed, handled, or not.

31. (withdrawn) The computer data signal according to claim 30, wherein said computer data signal comprises

at least one indicator to which machine or pick and place machine shall handle a given first position.

32. (withdrawn) The computer data signal according to claim 29, wherein said computer data signal is communicated in part by means of any of the list of: half or full duplex TCP/IP, Ethernet, a fieldbus, Profibus, Modbus, CAN, FF or similar.

33. (withdrawn) The computer data signal according to claim 29, wherein said computer data signal is communicated by a short range wireless member according to a standard such as any of: Bluetooth, WLAN, 11032.

34. (withdrawn) The computer data signal according to claim 29, wherein said computer data signal is communicated by means of a short call-back procedure over an ordinary Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), a wireless telephone system, a privately switched network, cellular network or satellite based telephone network.

35. (withdrawn) A graphical user interface of a computing device for controlling a machine to pick up an item from a first position and place the item in a second position the graphical user interface comprising:

at least one representation member for carrying out a method according to claim 1.

36. (withdrawn) The graphical user interface according to claim 35, wherein the GUI comprises

software object representation members to configure any of a plurality of machines as any from the list of:

a work group for adaptive moving of objects by the machines;

a Distribution of machines arranged according to identity of object handled;
an Order in which the objects shall reach the machines expressed as WorkAreas;
a load balancing group in which loads are balanced among any of the machines.

37. (withdrawn) The graphical user interface according to claim 36, wherein configurations are arranged so as to be displayed and/or edited upon activation a part of the graphical representation of one or more production areas comprising one or more machines by means of a computer mouse, a keyboard, a keypad, touch screen, stylus or any other similar computer display selection means.

38. (withdrawn) The graphical user interface according to claim 35, wherein one or more machines may be configured to pick up an object from a first position and place the object in a second position by means of carrying out a drag and drop operation on a software object representation member.